

Assembly Bill No. 2761

CHAPTER 299

An act to amend Sections 910 and 911 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to the Public Utilities Commission.

[Approved by Governor August 25, 2014. Filed with
Secretary of State August 25, 2014.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2761, Committee on Utilities and Commerce. Public Utilities Commission: report: renewable energy resources.

Existing law requires the Public Utilities Commission, by February 1 of each year, to prepare and submit to the policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature a report on specified topics generally relating to the fiscal impact of renewable energy programs on electrical corporations.

This bill would instead require the commission to submit the report to the policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature by May 1 of each year. The bill would make other nonsubstantive clarifying revisions to this reporting requirement.

Existing law requires the commission by no later than February 1, 2012, and annually thereafter, to release to the Legislature the costs of all electricity procurement contracts for eligible renewable energy resources and all costs for utility-owned generation approved by the commission, as specified.

This bill would require that the commission release this information to the Legislature by May 1 of each year.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 910 of the Public Utilities Code is amended to read:

910. (a) By May 1 of each year, the commission shall prepare and submit to the policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature a written report summarizing the following information:

(1) All electrical corporation revenue requirement increases associated with meeting the renewables portfolio standard, as defined in Section 399.12, including direct procurement costs for eligible renewable energy resources and renewable energy credits, administrative expenses for procurement, expenses incurred to ensure a reliable supply of electricity, and expenses for upgrades to the electrical transmission and distribution grid necessary to the delivery of electricity from eligible renewable energy resources to load.

(2) All cost savings experienced, or costs avoided, by electrical corporations as a result of meeting the renewables portfolio standard.

(3) All costs incurred by electrical corporations for incentives for distributed and renewable generation, including the self-generation incentive program, the California Solar Initiative, and net energy metering.

(4) All cost savings experienced, or costs avoided, by electrical corporations as a result of incentives for distributed and renewable generation.

(5) All pending requests by an electrical corporation seeking recovery in rates for renewable, fossil fuel, and nuclear procurement costs, research, study, or pilot program costs.

(6) The decision number for each decision of the commission authorizing recovery in rates of costs incurred by an electrical corporation since the preceding report.

(7) Any change in the electrical load serviced by an electrical corporation since the preceding report.

(8) The efforts each electrical corporation is taking to recruit and train employees to ensure an adequately trained and available workforce, including the number of new employees hired by the electrical corporation for purposes of implementing the requirements of Article 16 (commencing with Section 399.11) of Chapter 2.3, the goals adopted by the electrical corporation for increasing women, minority, and disabled veterans trained or hired for purposes of implementing the requirements of Article 16 (commencing with Section 399.11) of Chapter 2.3, and, to the extent information is available, the number of new employees hired and the number of women, minority, and disabled veterans trained or hired by persons or corporations owning or operating eligible renewable energy resources under contract with an electrical corporation. This paragraph does not provide the commission with authority to engage in, regulate, or expand its authority to include, workforce recruitment or training.

(b) The commission may combine the information required by this section with the reports prepared pursuant to Article 16 (commencing with Section 399.11) of Chapter 2.3.

SEC. 2. Section 911 of the Public Utilities Code is amended to read:

911. (a) Notwithstanding subdivision (g) of Section 454.5 and Section 583, no later than May 1 of each year, the commission shall release to the Legislature the costs of all electricity procurement contracts for eligible renewable energy resources, including unbundled renewable energy credits, and all costs for utility-owned generation approved by the commission. The first report shall include all costs commencing January 1, 2003. Subsequent reports shall include only costs for the preceding calendar year.

(1) For power purchase contracts, the commission shall release costs in an aggregated form categorized according to the year the procurement transaction was approved by the commission, the eligible renewable energy resource type, including bundled renewable energy credits, the average executed contract price, and average actual recorded costs for each kilowatthour of production. Within each renewable energy resource type,

the commission shall provide aggregated costs for different project size thresholds.

(2) For each utility-owned renewable generation project, the commission shall release the costs forecast by the electrical corporation at the time of initial approval and the actual recorded costs for each kilowatthour of production during the preceding calendar year.

(b) This section does not require the release of the terms of any individual electricity procurement contracts for eligible renewable energy resources, including unbundled renewable energy credits, approved by the commission. The commission shall aggregate data to the extent required to ensure protection of the confidentiality of individual contract costs even if this aggregation requires grouping contracts of different energy resource type. The commission shall not be required to release the data in any year when there are fewer than three contracts approved.

(c) The commission may combine the information required by this section with the report prepared pursuant to Section 910, as added by Chapter 1 of the First Extraordinary Session of the Statutes of 2011.